

**BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2018-318-E**

IN RE: Application of Duke Energy Progress,)
 LLC for Adjustments in Electric Rate)
 Schedules and Tariffs and Request for an)
 Accounting Order)
)
)

**PETITION
TO
INTERVENE**

This Commission established Commission Docket 2018-318-E, on November 8, 2018 upon the Application of Duke Energy Progress, LLC, (“DEP”), requesting authority to adjust and increase its retail electric rates, charges, and tariffs. The Application was filed pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §§58-27-820 and 58-27-870 and S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-303 and 103-823.

In DEP’s Application, DEP seeks rate changes to increase its annual revenues by 10.3%, or \$59 million, with the proposed increases to be effective June 1, 2019. DEP also proposes an additional rate increase on June 1, 2020 and then June 1, 2021. DEP also seeks approval of DEP’s proposed Grid Improvement Plan, approval of a Prepaid Advantage Program, and a variety of accounting orders related to ongoing costs for environmental compliance, advanced metering infrastructure deployment, grid investments between rate changes, and regulatory asset treatment related to the retirement of a generating plant located in Asheville, North Carolina. Finally, DEP seeks approval to establish a reserve and accrual for end of life nuclear costs for materials and supplies and nuclear fuel.

Petitioner herein is South Carolina Solar Business Alliance, Inc., (“SCSBA” or “Petitioner”). This Petition to Intervene is filed pursuant to R. 103-825, of this Commission’s Rules and Regulations and other applicable Rules and Regulations of this Commission, and Petitioner seeks permission to intervene and be made a party of record in the above-referenced Docket, with full rights of participation.

PETITIONER

1. SCSBA is a Public Benefit Non-Profit Corporation, by a conversion filing on May 17, 2017, with the South Carolina Secretary of State’s office, originally organized on October 21, 2009, pursuant to Chapter 44 of Title 33 of the South Carolina Code of Laws and, since that date, remaining in good standing with the South Carolina Secretary of State.

2. SCSBA's principal place of business is currently co-located with that of Southern Current LLC at 1519 King Street Extension, Charleston, South Carolina 29405 and SCSBA’s mailing address is currently co-located with that of the Hannah Solar Government Services, LLC at 1090 Jack Primus Road, Charleston, South Carolina, 29492.

3. SCSBA is organized for the purpose of promoting and advocating public policy positions supportive of solar power generation in South Carolina.

4. SCSBA is a Public Benefit Non-Profit Corporation, whose Board Members are the following individuals, all of whom conduct solar energy-related business in South Carolina under the company names indicated:

- a. Bret Sowers (Southern Current LLC);
- b. Jarrett Branham (Alder Energy Systems, LLC);
- c. Dave McNeil (Hannah Solar Government Services, LLC);
- d. Andy Israelson (E.ON Climate and Renewables);
- e. Steffanie Dohn (Southern Current LLC);
- f. Mark Walter (Tradewind Energy) and
- g. Tyler Norris (Cypress Creek Renewables).

5. SCSBA's Trade Members includes solar energy developers, engineering procurement and construction, contractors, professional service firms, equipment distributors and equipment manufacturers engaged in the business of solar energy generation in South Carolina and across the nation. All of SCSBA's Board Members' companies maintain offices in South Carolina.

6. SCSBA's Trade Members are financially impacted by DEP's filing, as is outlined in more detail herein and SCSBA has substantial business interests in South Carolina. Therefore, the review of DEP's Application and the rate increases sought therein, to be made by this Commission is important to the Petitioner, SCSBA from a financial and business standpoint, as is outlined in more detail hereinbelow.

7. Therefore, SCSBA is financially impacted by this Commission's review of DEP's Application and the rate increases sought therein, as is outlined in more detail hereinbelow.

8. Specifically, Petitioner, SCSBA's Trade Members conduct business with DEP and Petitioner, SCSBA has material interest in the subject matter of this Docket.

9. Petitioner's position is that Petitioner, SCSBA has a direct and substantial interest in the review of DEP's Application and the rate increases sought therein, to be made by this Commission in this Docket and Petitioner's interests cannot be adequately addressed by any other party. Petitioner's further position is that Petitioner, SCSBA will be impacted by this Commission's decision upon its review of DEP's Application and the rate increases sought therein. Therefore, the review and decision of this Commission is important to the Petitioner and its Trade Members from a financial standpoint. Petitioner's Intervention will aid this Commission, by assisting in the development of a full and fair record to address the important review to be conducted in this Docket. As shown above, Petitioner has a direct and material interest in this Commission's Review and Petitioner's interests are not adequately represented by other parties in this Docket.

10. Petitioner should be allowed to intervene in this Docket, with full rights of cross-examination, discovery and participation in any Hearing to be scheduled in this Docket. This Petition to Intervene is timely filed.

11. Furthermore, Petitioner's Intervention is consistent with this Commission's long standing policy, "...in encouraging maximum public participation in issues before the Commission, and [Intervention] [is] allowed so that a full and complete record addressing...views and concerns can be developed." (Order No.: 2005-725, in Docket No.: 2005-270-G, dated December 16, 2005).

12. The granting of SCSBA's Petition to Intervene is (i) in the public interest (ii) consistent with the policies of this Commission in encouraging maximum public participation in issues before it and intervention should be allowed so that a full and complete record addressing its views and concerns can be developed and (iii) contemplated in this Commission's Order 2005-725.

13. Petitioner, SCSBA has previously received approval for intervention from this Commission on numerous occasions, including in recent Commission Docket No. 2015-362-E, Docket No. 2015-8-E, Docket No. 2016-2-E, Docket No. 2016-1-E, Docket 2016-3-E, Docket 2016-9-E, Docket 2016-8-E, Docket 2016-10-E, Docket 2017-2-E, Docket 2017-1-E, Docket 2017-3-E, Docket 2017-305-E, Docket 2017-370-E, Docket 2018-2-E, Docket 2018-3-E, Docket 2018-202-E, Docket 2018-320-E, Docket 2018-10-E and Docket 2018-8-E.

14. SCSBA is represented by counsel in this proceeding:

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WHEREFORE, Petitioner prays for the following relief:

- (a) That this Petition to Intervene be accepted and that Petitioner be made a party of record;
- (b) That Petitioner be allowed to participate fully in this proceeding and take such positions as it deems advisable; and
- (c) For such other and further relief as is just and proper.

Respectfully Submitted,
/s/Richard L. Whitt
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January 2, 2019
Columbia, South Carolina

Counsel for Petitioner, South Carolina Solar
Business Alliance, Inc.